

WHAT IS THE REAL PURPOSE BEHIND THE UFOs?

The Physical Fact

Mounting evidence gathered over the years by reputable UFO observers and researchers in establishing the physical fact of UFOs in our skies, has resulted in ever-growing numbers of people from all walks of life and countries of the world accepting alien spacecraft visiting our planet as a fait accompli. Even world governments, who have always acknowledged a small percentage of totally inexplicable UFOs, are now coming out more openly in admitting that UFOs exist and notably, the United States Government has, through the USAF, recently announced that a grant of \$313,000 will be made to University of Colorado scientists to investigate flying saucers. It is obvious from this fact alone that a government, already heavily involved in the gargantuan costs of an ambitious Space Program, plus a war in Vietnam, is not going to lay out even this relatively small amount of money unless it believes that there really is something worthwhile to investigate.

The present wider acceptance of the reality of UFOs must be attributed in a large part to the early pioneer work of private investigators, UFO groups and such organizations as NICAP who have continually pressed for governmental acknowledgement of the UFO case and the release of more information to the public. We owe a great debt of gratitude and should pay a warm tribute to these pioneers who, in the early days especially, courageously subjected themselves to public ridicule, sometimes persecution and often veiled threats concerning their jobs, etc., and who were frequently labelled "crackpots". This type of treatment has always been meted out to men with ideas and beliefs in advance of their time, who dared to upset the status quo of the powers-that-be. Even Christianity itself, perhaps the most noble concept of earth's history, met with vile persecution in its early days. But where the governments of the world failed to meet the challenge of penetrating the UFO mystery, private UFO researchers and groups have in a great measure, succeeded. Let us then, for the purpose of this article, accept the physical fact that UFOs exist. Where then do we go from here?

Analysis of Typical UFO Behaviour

Careful study of typical UFO behaviour made from personal experience and/or reputable reports from all over the world, reveals the following main factors:

- a) Use of a technology far superior to our own;
- b) Intelligent control of the spacecraft;
- c) Ability to appear, disappear (dematerialize) and re-appear at will;
- d) Ability to "traverse" vast distances;
- e) No evidence of hostility or attempts to interfere with Earth's natural progress.

An intelligent breakdown of these factors leads us to some obvious conclusions. The operators of these alien spacecraft must be highly intelligent beings from other planets or possibly, huge, artificial floating worlds in outer space. There are theories that these space beings may also have

bases on the moon or even on Earth in our polar regions or undersea, but as yet there is no real proof of this. Judging from their superior technology, they must come from older and more advanced civilizations than ours, and in view of the non-aggressive nature of their visits, they must have reached a higher stage of spiritual evolution than we have. Their ability to perform such technological feats as right-angle turns, dematerialization and the covering of the vast distances involved - thus defying all Earth-known concepts of physics and natural laws - strongly suggests the knowledge and use of dimensions as yet unknown to us. It is believed by a number of scientific researchers who have made a deep study of the metaphysical aspects of these remarkable achievements that they are accomplished by an instantaneous "flip" from one dimension to another, thus by-passing the space-time factor. So far then, we have established the physical reality of the UFOs and from logical conclusions deducted that they must be manned by beings who have reached a far superior technological and spiritual stage of evolution than we have. What then is the purpose of their visits to our planet?

The Real Purpose Behind the UFOs

While at this stage of our investigations, we can only theorize on a number of the reasons for our space visitors' interest in Planet Earth, there are a growing number of dedicated UFO researchers who firmly believe that they have some of the answers. It is a strange but undeniable fact that any open-minded, truth-seeking individuals - and this includes down-to-earth scientists - who make a deep and sincere study of the UFO case, eventually reach a stage when they are brought face-to-face with the metaphysical and spiritual aspects of the situation. To quote but a few known cases, this was the personal experience of our own founder, the late Wilbert B. Smith; of Mead Layne of the B.S.R.A.; of the late George Adamski; of the well-known British UFO author, Leonard G. Cramp whose initial approach, like that of WBS, was purely scientific; and of Major Hans Petersen of Denmark, who originally set out to "debunk" flying saucers as a lot of nonsense! All these men and many others, through sincere and dedicated research, arrived at a point where a key to the mystery was placed in their hands. To some, it came through logical and inspirational deduction claimed as their own; to others, more sensitively attuned to what was going on, there also came the realization that knowledge and enlightenment were being imparted to them from some outside sources.

Frequently when such people were writing out reports or articles on their findings of UFO research, they would find themselves including strange items and concepts, some of which were so "way-out" as to make even the writer a little nervous as to their reception - and yet inwardly they knew they made good sense. After a careful analysis of the situation, the writer could only come to one conclusion - some intelligent being, with knowledge far superior to his own, was communicating with him by means of mental telepathy. As the researcher became more 'en rapport' with his communicator, a wonderful new concept for a better way of life emerged, with the main emphasis in two specific areas - scientific, or more properly, use of natural laws (of which we have as yet barely touched the fringe) for the benefit of humanity at large; and spiritual development - and always it is emphasized that the two are inextricably linked. So where do these messages come from?

It is believed by many and certainly those who have had the experience, that they come from the space visitors to our planet who regard us as their more backward brothers but nevertheless part of the cosmic family whom, within the limits of their powers, they want to help and inspire towards a spiritually-rich life on Earth and the wider horizons of Cosmic Brotherhood throughout the Universe. While their Cosmic Laws only permit them to help those open-minded, truth-seeking individuals who seek such help, they hope that

through such earthlings, the knowledge will be passed on to others. According to messages received, it seems that our Space Brothers deplore, with a great deal of pity, Earth's present approach to scientific and spiritual matters - they say in effect that we have "got the cart before the horse" and are doing things the hard way. If, they suggest, we first concentrate on spiritual brotherhood and the humanities of life, such as tending care of our hungry, sick and poor, the spiritual atmosphere of the whole planet would be raised to a higher level in which doorways would be opened to new dimensions and natural laws in the realm of metaphysics which would simplify our entire concept of Science. At present, Earth's space scientists are trying to perform Herculean tasks the hard, physical way. An understanding and use of the great natural laws of metaphysics would simplify the whole procedure. We have a classic example of the use of metaphysics in the so-called "miracles" of Jesus Christ. These were not magical tricks or even miracles - they were the work of a Great Master who, attuned to higher spiritual vibrations, was using other-dimensional natural laws. And remember, He said: "Greater things shall ye also do."

The Vital Purpose

This then appears to be the main and most important purpose of our space visitors' interest in us - a double-pronged drive to make us (1) aware by their presence in our skies of the existence of other beings in the Universe, and (2) to help those who seek it, up the ladder of spiritual and scientific progress. There may be other, subsidiary reasons for their visiting us. There is one school of thought that believes we were once the more backward children of their own planet who were brought to Earth to work out their own evolution and thus allow the more advanced beings on this planet to progress still further, and that, for this reason, they owe us a Karmic debt and moral obligation to assist us in our own progress. Others think that our space visitors are here to keep a watchful eye on the dangerous nuclear toys we are playing with which might bring about a cataclysmic holocaust, not only destroying every living thing on this planet, but seriously upsetting the balance of the entire solar system; some even think that they might use their superior technology to "neutralize" the effects of a nuclear war. Then there are those who think that our space visitors are already performing a useful task by clearing our skies of radioactive "garbage"; this theory has been arrived at by observance of UFOs and "green fireballs" in the skies over areas of nuclear activity. Still another school of thought advances the theory that a vast fleet of space-ships fly at the ready around Planet Earth prepared to rescue large numbers of earthlings in the event of a threatened nuclear war.

All these speculations, however, are at the best, only theories with little or no proof of substantiation. Let us then deal with the facts that we know, i.e., that all sincere UFO researchers eventually reach a point in their investigations when they become aware that they are being "inspired" by some outside superior intelligence to link spiritual development with scientific progress. Some such UFO investigators, like Wilbert B. Smith who, with a strictly scientific approach, always asked for and usually received, confirmation from three different sources on any new concept received telepathically or inspirationally, in the end also receive positive proof that they are in contact with the Space Brothers.

This then seems to be the vital purpose behind the UFOs - to reach and inspire those more open-minded and spiritually-advanced beings on Earth to a new way of life, encompassing spiritual and scientific progress in harmony with the Cosmic Laws of the Universe.

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THE CANADIAN AERIAL PHENOMENA INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE.

Although still closely affiliated with its parent body, International Intelligence of Unidentified Flying Objects (formerly Interplanetary Intelligence of Unidentified Flying Objects featured in an earlier issue of Topside), the newly-formed Canadian Aerial Phenomena Investigations Committee (CAPIC), with headquarters in Scarborough, Ontario, is a truly Canadian organization run by a Board of Governors, Chairman of which is Mr. Allen K. Vezina.

To become a member of CAPIC automatically entails membership in the IIOUFO. The fee is \$3.00 per year and for this members receive an official IIOUFO membership card and 6 issues of its official publication "UFO Analysis Report". CAPIC members are doubly fortunate, for they, at no extra cost, receive an official Canadian membership card and 4 issues of the Canadian quarterly journal "The CAPIC Reports". The IIOUFO has now become the world's largest UFO organization, with a membership of over 8,500. It has offices in all 50 States of the U.S.A., and also in 42 foreign countries. The IIOUFO was formed for a scientific investigation of UFOs and is backed by a panel of prominent scientists. Its motto is "Research, Investigations and Analysis", and in September, 1964, by authorization from the Pentagon, Washington, it was permitted to inspect and question the Air Force Project Blue Book on UFOs at the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

CAPIC in Canada will have behind it not only all the strength of the vast IIOUFO organization, but also affiliation with the Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Research Organization (UAPRO) and the Belgium Unidentified Flying Objects Co-operative (BUFOC). This means that CAPIC members will receive UFO news from all over the world.

Topside receives, on an exchange basis, copies of the Canadian journal "The CAPIC Reports" of which Mr. A.K. Vezina is Editor. In his latest editorial, Mr. Vezina writes with a great deal of punch and verve - he is obviously a no-nonsense, hard-hitting man prepared to put up a strong fight against all who would block the pathway to scientific UFO research. Shocked at the lack of co-operation and curt treatment he received from Toronto's leading newspapers, on which he makes some very pungent and pithy comments, he forthwith enlisted the aid of the Metropolitan Toronto Police Department who have agreed to co-operate by advising him of any UFO sighting reports in the Toronto area in order that he may carry out on-the-spot investigations.

CAPIC's ultimate aim is to affiliate all Canadian UFO organizations under its wing to form a unified body that will be able to command the respect of the Canadian people, the newspapers and the government.

The CAPIC emblem consists of a red maple leaf with the atomic symbol in grey in the centre. Across the atomic symbol is printed CAPIC in heavy black letters. Any of our readers who may be interested in joining the CAPIC group, with its world-wide affiliations and membership in the IIOUFO, should send the membership fee of \$3.00 in the form of a money order made payable to the IIOUFO, addressing it to C.A.P.I.C., P.O. Box 98, Postal Station "A", Scarborough, Ontario, Canada. Perhaps we should remember the old adage - "In Unity, there is Strength" - and here is a Canadian organization prepared to fight for that unity and strength!

LETTERS FROM HOLLAND

We are indebted to Miss Rey d'Aquila, Leader of the UFO Contact Group in The Hague, for the following interesting news items.

Unseen UFO: Rey relates the strange experience of her friend in Eindhoven with whom she is in telepathic communication and who confirmed Rey's sighting of a "swarm" of UFOs as described in the last issue of Topside. This friend and her husband were driving on a Dutch express highway at a speed of 100 m.p.h. in rainy, misty weather conditions. Suddenly, for no apparent reason, the car's speed dropped back to 60 m.p.h. and none of the driver's efforts could increase this speed. Immediately, Rey's friend sensed telepathically the presence of a UFO overhead, but her husband dismissed the idea, preferring a more down-to-earth explanation although he could find none. Then without warning, the car leapt back to its original speed of 100 m.p.h. But 20 minutes later, it was the husband who exclaimed nervously to his wife: "Here it comes again! And there's a cold draught blowing down my back, making my neck-hairs stand on end. It's giving me the creeps!" This time, the car dropped to well below 60 m.p.h., and finally they both became convinced of their close proximity to a flying saucer. At one time, the wife thought she could see a light object flying ahead of them, but due to the misty weather, she admitted that it might have been a bird. At the end of the trip, the husband carefully checked the car; it was in perfect working order and there was nothing wrong with the ignition. But if it was not a UFO, why the unaccountable loss of speed and why the inexplicable cold draught?

EVOLUON: At the entrance of Eindhoven, City of the world-famous Philips industry, there stands the EVOLUON (Philips' Permanent Industrial Exhibition Centre) modelled in the shape of a typical space disc, and the Dutch press is already calling it "The Flying Saucer of Holland". EVOLUON is bathed in a dim, hazy-blue light very much like the real flying saucer after which it was designed and it stands on V-shaped feet as though it had just landed. Inside this building, the illumination in the cupola, which is equipped with a lens, is of the same soft hazy-blue which spreads around unobtrusively and is hardly experienced as light. Visitors push a button and a small platform starts to rise while a soft "zooming" sound is heard. There is a photographic lay-out showing Planet Earth projected in outer space, with a flying saucer (model EVOLUON) hovering alongside. EVOLUON was officially opened in September of 1966 and received a big write-up in the European press. One newspaper described it as "The Challenging Philips' Flying Saucer". Rey considers it a vast step forward that such large concerns as Philips are now openly showing their interest in UFOs and "meeting with outer space people of a higher civilization."

Individual Basic Tone: In her research into the metaphysical sciences, Rey has become interested in what she describes as "Basic Tone". She writes: Every individual, animal, plant and rock has its own individual "basic tone". If you play this very tone, you reach the innermost part of the creature. Mazdaznan teachings give an indication on how to find this basic tone for yourself. After a good night's rest, say aloud to yourself "Good Morning" and repeat this a few times until you are sure that the basic tone remains the same every time. Then go to a musical instrument (piano, violin, etc) and play this tone. Check if the tone is pleasing to your ear - if it's the right one, it should be and if it is, this is your basic tone. All composers should write their music in this very tone which will guarantee success since it falls in line with his true individuality. If an animal's basic tone is struck, it will surrender to you. Perhaps this is the key to making a snake dance to a tune. A dog's whistle may be the average of a dog's basic tone. Conversely, a basic tone played too long and out of harmony with

the listener, can upset his mental balance and in some cases, even kill a person.

Interesting Publications: The famous Brookings Institute Report prepared for NASA in 1959-60 is now out of print. However, those interested in obtaining a full-sized reproduction of this Report which deals with life in outer space and its implications for human affairs and gives bold statements of what governments should do to educate people towards meeting with higher civilizations, should apply to :-

University Microfilms Inc.,
300 N. Zeeb Road,
Ann Arbor, Mich. U.S.A.

Code Number: Op 1700840
Full Title: "Proposed Studies of the Implications of Peaceful
Space Activities for Human Affairs."
Author: Dr. Donald N. Michael
Price: \$10.00 plus postage.

A free copy of the booklet "Life in Other Worlds" may be obtained from :-

Joseph Seagram & Sons Inc.,
375 Park Avenue,
New York, N.Y. U.S.A.

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A ROYAL UFOLOGIST!

David Wynne-Morgan, columnist for the English magazine "London Life", has this to say in his column dated September 29, 1966: "Saucers. One of the most fascinating scientific controversies, which has never been satisfactorily resolved, is whether flying saucers are really vehicles from outer space, the figments of people's imagination, or just explainable by natural causes.

"I can now reveal that the supporters of the existence of flying saucers have got some very powerful backing. One of the greatest experts on the subject in this country (England), a man who has no doubt whatever that they exist, is no less a person than Prince Philip.

"Over the years, he has collected a great deal of written evidence on the subject and has got together almost all the books or papers that have ever been published.

"His interest dates back to the time when Commander Michael Parker was his private secretary and the two of them would discuss for hours the pros and cons of the evidence that existed.

"One man who has discussed it with Prince Philip personally, told me: "The Prince is a down-to-earth, practical man, but he is absolutely convinced of the reality of flying saucers."

It is interesting to learn that our UFO journals are receiving such royal interest!

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"PIECE FOR A JIGSAW"

Leonard G. Cramp's New Book Provides a Fascinating Missing Piece to the UFO Puzzle!

The Editor was delighted to receive from the author an autographed advance copy of Leonard G. Cramp's new book which was finally published under the title of "Piece for a Jigsaw". Here is the book that UFOlogists and Scientists the world over have long waited for! To quote from the somewhat modest comments inside the book's 'jacket':- "This book is not dressed up to be startlingly sensational. It doesn't have to be. The scientific facts contained in it are startlingly sensational in themselves. Neither is "Piece for a Jigsaw" just another flying saucer theory, for it offers the reader evidence of a highly corroborative technical nature set out in a simple, straight-forward yet enthralling manner which leaves very little doubt as to the fact that spacecraft are landing on Earth." The author modestly suggests that he is only offering a very small piece of the jigsaw puzzle, but readers may form their own opinions on what appears to the writer as an under-statement.

"Piece for a Jigsaw" is in fact, a high quality book profusely illustrated with explanatory diagrams and sketches and a series of interesting photographs including as the frontispiece, an excellent colour reproduction of the oil painting by Leonard Cramp of a flying saucer hovering over a moon crater (as described in the last issue of Topside). It is a book which anyone could be proud to have on his bookshelf. As for the contents of the book which represent over 12 years' meticulous UFO research, analysis and scientific experiments, readers, particularly in the technical and scientific fields, are in for an intriguing surprise and hours of fascinating reading as they follow step by step Mr. Cramp's lucid and logical scientific deductions on the UFO mystery. The book covers, with a wealth of illustration, the whole gamut of aero-dynamics ranging from present-day Earth aircraft to the sophisticated flying saucer and includes the following interesting chapters:-

PART 1	-	<u>THE BEGINNING OF A JOURNEY</u>
Chapter 1		Crossroads of Aerodynamics
" 2		Aerodynamic Saucers
" 3		Limits of Rocketry
" 4		Gravity and Magnetism
" 5		Gravitation and the Ether
" 6		The Present State of the Art
" 7		Gravitational SpaceShip
PART 2	-	<u>ANALYSIS OF THE TECHNICAL CORROBORATIVE EVIDENCE</u>
Chapter 8		The G-Field Theory
" 9		G-Field Lift Effects
" 10		Accompanying Phenomena
" 11		Analysis of the Technical Corroborative Evidence (1)
" 12		" (2)
" 13		" (3)
" 14		" (4)
" 15		" (5)

PART 3 - SAME COUNTRY, DIFFERENT TRACK

Chapter 16	Analysis of a Theory to Fit the Facts	(6)
" 17	"	(7)
" 18	"	(8)
" 19	"	(9)
" 20	"	(10)

PART 4 - FAMILIAR SCENERY AT THE END OF THE JOURNEY

Chapter 21	The Bi-Field Theory
" 22	Vindication of a Scout Ship

George Adamski followers will be particularly interested in the last chapter in which Mr. Cramp explains how by a completely independent, step-by-step scientific analysis, he arrived at exactly the same design of space disc as the Adamski scout ship, and in this chapter he reveals some new and interesting facets of the case, thereby vindicating some of GA's claims.

In the last paragraph of the book, Leonard Cramp explains that despite his original intention to include a final chapter on the meta-physical aspects of the UFOs, due to his scientific treatise taking up more book space than originally anticipated, he came to the reluctant decision not to include this, believing in the final analysis, that this intriguing aspects of the flying saucers belonged more properly between the pages of another book - part of which is already written and he is now working further on. We may look forward to this with eager anticipation, as Mr. Cramp promises such exciting revelations as "--- a personal experience, of thought-provoking nature, of the Mother Ships, more about the energy the discs use and the little signposts which indicate where those who want to, may look for it themselves; his own findings on where the big carriers may be coming from, how they come, nay, why they bother to come at all ---".

The Editor took along "Piece for a Jigsaw" to the last meeting of the Ottawa New Sciences Club where it met with an enthusiastic reception by members, a number of whom intend to order personal copies, apart from the fact that this fascinating book will be added to the Club Library. The Editor cannot speak too highly of this book and urges all flying saucer enthusiasts, UFO groups and particularly scientists interested in the UFO phenomena, to obtain a copy from a good bookstore. It is also suggested that UFOlogists should request their Public Libraries to obtain copies in order that this valuable knowledge may reach as many as possible. Publication details are as follows :-

Title: "Piece for a Jigsaw"
Author: Leonard G. Cramp
Publishers: Semerton Publishing Company Limited
Newport Road, Semerton,
Cowes, Isle of Wight, England.
Price: England - £1-7-6
Canada and U.S.A. - about \$4.25

Don't miss out on this UFO Book of the Century!
Due to Leonard Cramp's world-wide fame in UFO scientific circles, there will be a heavy demand for it. Order your copy now!

WORLDS LIKE OURS

By

GEOFF HOPPETT

For most of our history we have thought that Man on Earth was the centre of Creation. We thought the stars were fixed to a sort of sphere. Or they were little holes in a sphere through which gleamed, from beyond, some original fire or brilliance.

The idea that Man on Earth is the centre of things, or that, at the very least, he is God's most favoured creature, if not the master of all her surveys, is slow to die. Perhaps, in its direct form, it is dead. To most people, the notion that the Earth goes round the Sun, and that the Sun in turn is just a star among millions in a galaxy, and that there are many galaxies is not a new one. It has been around for some time now. It is not heresy any longer.

But, possibly from a subconscious feeling that it is the only way to preserve our self-respect, we still like to think of ourselves as the best. Do most of us really consider the possibility of contact with other technologies? Do we really think that they might know something fundamental that we don't know? Do we consider seriously any possible prior claims to real estate in "space"?

After centuries of resistance, Christian theologians are beginning to wrestle with the religious implications of the possibility that we may not be the focal point of Creation, but that we may be inferior in physique, in intelligence and in spiritual development to more highly evolved beings elsewhere.

One can say "after centuries of resistance" because the idea that there are other worlds like our own, and that some of them may be inhabited, is a very ancient one indeed. Thales and Miletus, who lived at the end of the seventh century before Christ, is said to have suggested that the stars are other worlds. His pupil, Anaximander, developed the idea that there are an infinite number of worlds in a constant process through a sort of cycle, some dying, some being born and the rest being at various stages in their "lives". At that time too, Pythagoras held the view that the Earth was spherical. And Xenophanes of Colophon, seeking to put Man in his place, ridiculed the gods worshipped by the Greeks. If cows could make images, he said, they would worship cow-shaped gods. He also said that the Moon was inhabited.

Close to the time of Christ, the Roman poet Lucretius said that as there are countless individuals in every species of animal, and nothing in the universe is "unique and solitary in its birth and growth", so there must be innumerable worlds and their inhabitants. And somewhat nearer our own time, the Dutch mathematician, astronomer and physicist,

Christiaan Huygens, said that the Sun was just another star, and went on to ask "Why may not every one of these stars or suns have as great a retinue as our sun of planets, with their moons, to wait upon them?" He felt that we must grant that their planets would have the same qualities as the planets in our solar system. "They must have their plants and animals," he wrote, "Man and their rational creatures too, and those as great admirers and as diligent observers of the heavens as ourselves..."

A hundred years before Huygens a Dominican monk in Italy, Giordano Bruno, concluded that there must be an infinite number of worlds inhabited by an infinite number of morally imperfect beings. He reached this conclusion considering the infinite qualities of God. He was burned at the stake for heresy in 1600 A.D.

In this century, in 1918, Harlow Shapley published his findings that our own galaxy is a disk-like system of stars, and that our own sun is thousands of light-years from its centre. He wrote in 1958, "we have made a long forward step in cosmic adjustment - a step that is unquestionably irreversible. We must get used to the fact that we are peripheral, that we move along with our star, the Sun, in the outer part of a galaxy that is one among millions of star-rich galaxies." He has also said that "as far as we can tell, the same physical laws prevail everywhere. The same rules apply at the centre of the Milky Way, in the remote galaxies, and among the stars of the solar neighbourhood. In view of a common cosmic physics and chemistry, should we not also expect to find animals and plants everywhere? It seems completely reasonable; and soon we shall say that it seems inevitable."

To find animals and plants everywhere, animals and plants not too different from those we are used to, means that we should expect to find planets everywhere. Planets not too different from those we know in our solar system, in fact, not too different from our own Earth. No telescope has been devised yet that is strong enough to see planets even of the nearest stars. Is there any evidence, then, that there are other planets outside our solar system?

Ninety per cent of all stars visible in our telescopes, when classified in a certain way according to spectral type and luminosity, fall into a narrow band known as the "main sequence". At one end of the main sequence are the young, large, hot, bright stars and at the other are the old, small, cool, dull stars. An astronomer named Otto Struve, while studying the speeds of rotation of stars along the main sequence, noticed an abrupt step at one point in the sequence from fast spinning stars to slow spinning stars. He postulated that these slow stars had given birth to planets at this stage in their "life", and, as the raised arms of a whirling figure skater slows her spin, so these planets had absorbed much of the star's angular momentum. However, other scientists have other theories for the loss of spin, pointing out that the same effect

could have been achieved by shooting out great masses of gas. Some astronomers have proposed that virtually all single stars have planets regardless of their speed of rotation. It all depends on what theory of the origin of stars and the Universe they are supporting. They are quite ready to admit that they don't really know. Meanwhile the only method of proceeding is to try to fit various theories to the facts as they are collected, to see what facts are left over. If too much is left unaccounted for one has to think up a new hypothesis to test.

But evidence of the existence of planets has come from another line of astronomical research. Photographic measurement of the positions of a number of stars over a number of years has disclosed that several of them seem to wobble. The wobbles are consistent with the existence of comparatively small bodies in orbit around them.

The main sequence of stars is not considered a highway now, down which a star progresses. A star does not change its position on the main sequence, which is determined by its mass. To quote Walter Sullivan's explanation in his book "We Are Not Alone":

"A star moves onto the main sequence once its internal heat and pressure...become sufficient to start the hydrogen burning. Its stay there ends when the supply of hydrogen in the core has been exhausted...the star swells into a "giant" or "supergiant", becoming progressively hotter and brighter - and, presumably, destroying any life in its vicinity."

The hydrogen reaction stage is by far the longest stage in the life of a star - a fact which would explain why ninety per cent of the known stars lie on the main sequence.

The Earth is estimated to be about 4.6 billion years old. About a third of that was needed to evolve the chemicals that finally organized into what we call life. The remainder was occupied by the evolution of life from its most primitive form to mankind now preparing to launch himself into space.

At the hot end of the main sequence, stars burn their hydrogen too fast to stay on the main sequence long enough for their planets to evolve life. At the cool end only a narrow zone around the stars has a temperature range within which life as we know it could evolve. The greatest likelihood of finding planets inhabited by intelligent life appears to be in that part of the main sequence occupied by the moderately small stars. By a happy coincidence the Sun lies squarely in the middle of this group and the Earth lies in the middle of the Sun's habitable zone. Mars and Venus also lie within the Sun's habitable zone; Venus near its inner limit, and Mars near its outer limit. (The limits were set at the temperature extremes thought to be necessary for the chemical reactions that would have to occur in any conceivable life process.)

Other factors, such as the radius and mass needed in order to hold an atmosphere, and the probable distribution of likely candidates in the galaxy (more in the arms than at the centre, they think) have been reckoned in statistical calculations. The most optimistic answers for the number of probably inhabited planets in the galaxy are in the billions. These figures are reduced by various pessimistic arguments, however, to a matter of millions.

Even so, with the nearest star a number of light-years away from us, and the probability of only one in the nearest several hundred thousand stars having an inhabited planet, our nearest neighbours are likely to be an awful long distance away from us.

With our technology and our as yet unshaken belief in the limiting speed of light it will be a long time before we reach them. With their technology.....who knows?

Intelligence has a definite survival value on this planet, and it is probably so on other planets. By the same token, suspicion of strangers, a certain wariness when confronted with the unknown, is also built into us. If he doesn't fit our conventions and customs then he is a danger to our society. Clobber him. Is it so on other planets? How much does society have to develop before that is bred out of us? From where we stand it looks as if dropping that little trick would leave us very vulnerable when dealing with other societies. And yet, on the individual level, we know very well that we have had to give it up, that it is no way to win friends and influence people. Nice people, that is.

"THEY SAW - NOW THEY BELIEVE IN FLYING SAUCERS!"

"The Leader-Post" of Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada, in its issue of Jan. 11, 1967, carried the above title as its banner headline. The story follows: "Vancouver (CP) - Five members of a Canadian Pacific Airlines DC-8 crew never believed before, but they believe in flying saucers now. The crew reported Tuesday they saw one on a recent flight from Lima, Peru to Mexico City and couldn't explain it away. "We tried to discredit the thing from beginning to end, but it couldn't be anything we could think of." said Capt. Robert Millbank. He said he saw two beams of light during the Dec. 29 flight. Second Officer John D. Dahl, navigator, Mike Mole, purser, Joseph Lugs and pilot trainee W. Poepperi, gathered to watch the object.

"It was getting bigger all the time, and at one point shot out a trail of sparks like a rocket." Capt. Millbank said. "Then it seemed to be getting closer and we could see a string of lights between two white lights. It then levelled off at our left wing-tip and, in the full moon, we could see a shape between the two lights which appeared thicker in the middle."

He said the object remained a couple of minutes, then disappeared behind the big passenger plane. He said he filed a report in Mexico City after the flight. The passengers did not see the object. The crew did not wake them. Said Mr. Dahl: "I never believed in flying saucers before. But I've got to believe in them now!"

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